1	2	3
31.	Deoghar	14
32.	Dhanbad	43
33.	Giridih	49
34.	Hazaribagh	62
35.	Palamau	68
36.	Lohardaga	20
37.	Gumla	40
38.	Ranchi	68
39.	Singhbhum	68
	TOTAL	2209

[English]

Release of Fishermen

2287. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL :
SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VERMA :
DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Pakistan have released some fishermen/other persons detained by them; and

(b) if so, the number of fisherman/other persons detained in the jails in both the countries and number of them released both by India and Pakistan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI KAMALA SINHA): (a) and (b): During the Foreign Secretary level talks between India and Pakistan held in Islamabad from 19-23 June, 1997 it was decided that fishermen/crew members of fishing vessels/cargo boats confirmed by both countries to be held in each other's custody would be released. Accordingly India released 194 Pakistani fishermen and crew members and Pakistan released 193 Indian fishermen and crew members on 15th July, 1997. The Indian fishermen and crew members returned to India on 15.07.97.

During the Foreign Secretary level talks, it was also agreed that efforts would be made to confirm the remaining fishermen and crew members held in each other's custody. Government are pursuing the matter with the Government of Pakistan through diplomatic channels. Our efforts for the release/repatriation of all Indian prisoners under detention in Pakistan, including the remaining Indian fishermen and crew members continue.

[Translation]

Vacant Reserved Posts

2288. SHRI KACHARU BHAU RAUT:
SHRI N.J. RATHWA

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of posts reserved for SCs/STs lying vacant in his Ministry of Health & Family Welfare and its allied departments category-wise;

(b) whether non-SC/ST employees are working on these posts;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to fill up the back log of SC/ST; and

(e) the time by which these posts are likely to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a): As per information available as on 31st March, 1997, the following category-wise posts to be filled by Direct Recruitment Method and reserved for SCs/STs are lying vacant in the Department of the Ministry of Health and F.W. and its subordinate offices;

S.No.	Group	SCs	STs
1.	'A'	5	19
2.	'B'	1	-
3.	'C'	74	136
4.	'D'	-	4

(b) Non-SC/ST employees are not appointed on a regular basis to the posts reserved for SC/ST.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) From time to time, the Government has launched Special Recruitment Drives to fill up the posts reserved for SC/ST. Efforts are made to fill up the backlog vacancies by sending requisitions to the UPSC/SSC/Others (advertisements issued/requisition sent to Employment Exchange) by this Ministry and its allied departments.

(e) Efforts are being made to fill up the posts as early as possible. However no time frame can be prescribed.

[English]

Employment Abroad

2289. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state: